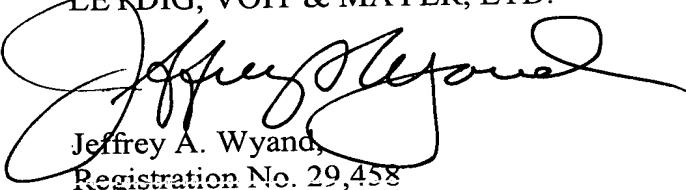


**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments are made to correct minor translational errors and to meet United States requirements as to form. No new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,

LEXDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.

  
Jeffrey A. Wyand,  
Registration No. 29,458

Suite 300  
700 Thirteenth Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 737-6770  
Facsimile: (202) 737-6776  
Date: October 22, 2001  
JAW:cmcg

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 401432

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

**ALFRED WING KIN CHAN**

Application No. Unassigned Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: October 22, 2001 Examiner: Unassigned  
For: PIPE FITTINGS

**PENDING CLAIMS AFTER ENTRY OF PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

1. A pipe fitting comprising a hollow body and at least one open end for connection to a pipe, the open end including internal screw threads for connection to a pipe and an integral extension collar which has an inner diameter larger than an internal diameter of the internal screw threads, for surrounding unused trailing screw threads of a pipe connected to the pipe fitting, for forming an annular gap with a pipe connected to the fitting, and for holding a sealing compound, wherein the collar has a wall thickness comparable to the fitting where the internal screw threads are located, and an outer diameter larger than the fitting where the internal screw threads are located.
2. The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 1, wherein the screw threads are tapered outwards with respect to an axis of the open end.
3. The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 1, made of a galvanised iron material.
4. The pipe fitting as claimed in' claim 1, wherein the fitting is selected from the group consisting of an elbow joint, a T joint, a straight joint, and an end cap.
5. The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 2, made of a galvanised iron material.
6. The pipe fitting as claimed in' claim 2, wherein the fitting is selected from the group consisting of an elbow joint, a T joint, a straight joint, and an end cap.

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**AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION, CLAIMS, AND  
ABSTRACT MADE VIA PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

*Amendments to existing claims:*

1. (Amended) A pipe fitting comprising a hollow body and at least one open end for connection to a pipe, ~~said the open end being pre formed with including~~ internal screw threads for connection to a pipe and ~~including~~ an integral extension collar which has an inner diameter ~~relatively~~ larger than ~~that~~ an internal diameter of the internal screw threads, for surrounding unused trailing screw threads of ~~said a pipe~~ and connected to the pipe fitting, for forming an annular gap ~~there between to hold~~ with a pipe connected to the fitting, and for holding a sealing compound, ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein the collar ~~having has a wall of a comparable thickness as that of comparable to the end behind it~~ fitting where the internal screw threads are located, and an outer diameter ~~relatively~~ larger than ~~that of the end behind it~~ fitting where the internal screw threads are located.

2. (Amended) The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the screw threads are ~~slightly~~ tapered outwards ~~at a small angle~~ with respect to ~~the~~ an axis of the open end.

3. (Amended) The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, ~~characterised in~~ being made of a galvanised iron material.

4. (Amended) The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, characterised in being in the form wherein the fitting is selected from the group consisting of an elbow joint, a T-shaped joint, a straight joint, and an end cap.

*Add the following claims:*

5. (New) The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 2, made of a galvanised iron material.

6. (New) The pipe fitting as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fitting is selected from the group consisting of an elbow joint, a T joint, a straight joint, and an end cap.

*Amendments to the abstract:*

## ABSTRACT

### PIPE FITTINGS

A pipe fitting (10) comprising includes a hollow body (11) and at least one open end (12) for connection to another a pipe fitting (100), said the end (12) being pre-formed with including internal screw threads (13). The end (12) includes an integral extension collar (14) which has an inner diameter relatively larger than that of the screw threads (13) for surrounding unused trailing screw threads (120A) of the other a pipe joined to the fitting (100) and forming an annular gap (15) there between to hold for holding a sealing compound (X). The collar (14) has a wall of a comparable thickness as that of to the end (12) behind it fitting and an outer diameter relatively larger than that of the end (12) behind it the body of the fitting.

Figure 1